

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8-20, 22, 23, and 25-29 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 3, 7, 20, and 27 are amended by the present amendment.

In the Advisory Action, Claim 20 was allowed and Claims 2, 3, 5-19, 22, 23, and 25-29 were maintained rejected for the reasons stated in the Office Action of January 14, 2005.

The Advisory Action stated on page 2, in the Response to Arguments section, that the claimed feature “a contact formed in a strip shape” is shown by Applicant’s admitted art (AAA) because a contact 9 in Figure 2 is longer along an X direction than along a Y direction. In view of this indication, independent Claims 2, 3, 7, 20, and 27 have been amended to recite “a contact ~~formed in a strip shape~~ having a longest length along an electric charge transfer direction,” as shown for example in Figure 4. No new matter has been added.

Thus, the contacts 9 of Figure 2 connect layers 8 and 80 to transfer electrodes 31-34 (see the specification at page 4, lines 13-17) and have a longest length (along the Z direction) perpendicular to the electric charge transfer direction (the X direction), which is different than the amended independent claims.

In addition, in view of the present claim amendments, the arguments presented in the Amendment filed on June 14, 2004, which Amendment is incorporated hereby by reference, are believed to further distinguish the amended claims over the applied art.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 2, 3, 7, 20, and 27 and each of the claims depending therefrom patentably distinguish over the applied art.

Consequently, in light of the above comments and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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